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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

| Proceeding                | 91205910   |
|---------------------------|--|
| Party                     | Defendant<br>Armes, Chris  |
| Correspondence<br>Address | CHRISTOPHER J. HUSSIN LATHROP & CLARK LLP PO BOX 1507 MADISON, WI 53701-1507 docket_chussin@lathropclark.com |
| Submission                | Answer   |
| Filer's Name              | Christopher J. Hussin  |
| Filer's e-mail            | docket_chussin@boardmanclark.com   |
| Signature                 | /chris hussin/   |
| Date                      | 08/13/2012   |
| Attachments               | A1472492.PDF ( 7 pages )(51615 bytes )   |

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

| DOMNIEW FOR RECEIPENT INC  | ,                        |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ROMNEY FOR PRESIDENT, INC. | )                        |
| Opposer,                   |                          |
| <b>v.</b>                  | Opposition No.: 91205910 |
| CHRIS ARMES,               | )                        |
| Applicant.                 | )                        |

#### **ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

Applicant answers and otherwise pleads to Opposer's Consolidated Notice of Opposition to Applicant's U.S. Trademark Application Serial Nos. 85/447,381 and 85/452,544 as set forth below. With respect to the preamble in the Consolidated Notice of Opposition, Applicant denies the allegations made therein.

With respect to the numbered paragraphs in the Consolidated Notice of Opposition,
Applicant answers and pleads as follows:

- 1. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 1, and therefore denies them.
  - 2. Admitted.
- 3. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 3, and therefore denies them.
  - 4. Applicant admits that Mitt Romney was the 70<sup>th</sup> Governor of Massachusetts,

serving from 2003 to 2007. Applicant lacks sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the remaining allegations of Paragraph 4, and therefore denies them.

- 5. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 5, and therefore denies them.
- 6. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 6, and therefore denies them.
- 7. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 7, and therefore denies them.
- 8. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 8, and therefore denies them.
- 9. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 9, and therefore denies them.
- 10. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 10, and therefore denies them.
- 11. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 11, and therefore denies them.
- 12. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 12, and therefore denies them.
- 13. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 13, and therefore denies them.
- 14. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 14, and therefore denies them.
  - 15. Denied.

16. Denied. 17. Admitted. 18. Denied. Denied. 19. 20. Denied. 21. Applicant admits that it formed B.I.A. – Believe in America, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, on or about January 5, 2012. Applicant denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 21. 22. Denied. FALSE SUGGESTION OF A CONNECTION Section 2(a) of the Lanham Act Applicant repeats and incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-22 of the 23. Consolidated Notice of Opposition as it set forth fully herein. 24. Denied. 25. Denied. 26. Denied. 27. Denied. Denied. 28. 29. Denied. 30. Denied. LACK OF BONA FIDE INTENT

### LACK OF BONA FIDE INTENT Section 1(b) of the Lanham Act

31. Applicant repeats and incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-30 of the

Consolidated Notice of Opposition as it set forth fully herein. 32. Denied. 33. Applicant lacks information to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations of Paragraph 33, and therefore denies them. 34. Denied. 35. Denied. 36. Denied. LIKELIHOOD OF CONFUSION Section 2(d) of the Lanham Act Applicant repeats and incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-36 of the 37. Consolidated Notice of Opposition as it set forth fully herein. 38. Denied. 39. Denied. 40. Denied. 41. Denied. 42. Denied. Denied. 43. Denied. 44. 45. Denied. 46. Applicant admits that Opposer has not authorized Applicant to file the Applications but affirmatively alleges that such authorization is not necessary. Applicant

denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 41.

Denied.

47.

#### 48. Denied.

# ALTERNATIVE GROUNDS: MERELY INFORMATIONAL, DESCRIPTIVE, FAILURE TO FUNCTION AS A MARK AND ORNAMENTATION Sections 1, 2, 3 and 45 of the Lanham Act

- 49. Applicant repeats and incorporates its responses to paragraphs 1-48 of the Consolidated Notice of Opposition as it set forth fully herein.
  - 50. Denied.
  - 51. Admitted.
  - 52. Denied.
  - 53. Denied.
  - 54. Denied.
  - 55. Denied.

#### AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 1. Opposer lacks standing to bring this action.
- 2. Opposer's claims are barred because it cannot demonstrate prior trademark rights to BELIEVE IN AMERICA.
  - 3. Opposer has failed to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

Unless specifically admitted herein, all allegations in the Consolidated Notice of Opposition are denied. Applicant further denies that Opposer is entitled to any relief.

WHEREFORE, Applicant prays that Opposer's Consolidated Notice of Opposition be dismissed with prejudice.

Dated: 08-13-2012

By: Mustinesse Christopher J. Hussin

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on the date indicated below a copy of the foregoing document was served upon the following by depositing a copy thereof in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

Charles F. Marshall BROOKS, PIERCE, MCLENDON, HUMPHREY & LEONARD, L.L.P. P.O. BOX 26000 Greensboro, NC 27420-6000

Dated: 08-13-2012

By:

Christopher J. Hussin

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